

# FRIENDS OF HUDSON

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## Latest SLC annual report says waste burning is key to company's bottom line

- **Hudson citizens look to Aldermen to rule out waste burning**
- **Company's applications do not prevent SLC from adding waste later**

HUDSON (N.Y.) — Released in just the past few weeks, St. Lawrence Cement's most recent annual report cites the company's growing reliance on waste fuels to maintain its profit margins.

In a section titled "Factors Affecting Our Business," the Montreal-based and Swiss-owned company's 2004 Annual report explains to investors on page 20 that it is trying to remain profitable in part by using waste fuels—which it refers to euphemistically as "alternative energy sources":

**"In 2003 and 2004 we experienced significant increases in the cost of coal, coke, natural gas, electricity and diesel fuel. The ability to raise selling prices to cover such cost increases, which are largely beyond our control, and/or to offset or mitigate the negative impact of such increases through efficiency improvements and greater use of alternative energy sources, is critical to our profitability."**

On Page 9 of the April 2005 report, SLC is slightly more specific about its long-term plans to increase the use of waste fuels company-wide:

**"We are ... substituting alternative fuels and raw materials (AFR), such as used tires and biomass waste. ... We have created AFR business units in each of our three divisions to accelerate the rate of substitution and to increase our visibility as a company capable of putting selected types of waste materials to beneficial use in our manufacturing process."**

St. Lawrence Cement has attempted to mislead the public about its corporate plans to burn hazardous waste in its Greenport project by claiming that its current application does not include provisions for such activity. However, nothing would preclude the company from re-applying at any future date to add waste fuels such as tires, industrial solvents, medical waste, garbage and other hazardous waste to the project's mix.

"SLC has repeatedly refused to put any language in its proposed deal with the City of Hudson which would definitively prevent them from coming back in a few years with a waste proposal," noted Friends' executive director Sam Pratt on Monday. "This has been the approach of SLC and its parent company' at other plant sites; this new information disclosed in SLC's own annual report shows their true intent. We call on the Common Council to uphold its promises from a year ago to ensure that waste burning is never allowed in our communities."

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For more information or a copy of the SLC 2004 report, please call **Friends of Hudson at (518) 822-0334**